

LITERALLY@

NEWBATTLE

MIDLOTHIAN'S

FESTIVAL OF WORDS

26-27 April 2019

Programme



STORIES

EVENTS

MUSIC

IDEAS

## Funding Partners



### Gold Sponsor



### Silver Sponsor



## Partner Organisations



With thanks for the kind contribution to the event from Jackie Kay and Karine Polwart.



This year's school programme, taking place on the morning of Friday 26 April 2019, will involve selected primary schools in Midlothian. This event is supported by the **Educational Institution of Scotland**.

Please book on Eventbrite:  
[newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk](http://newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk)

All information is correct at time of going to press but is subject to change/cancellation.

For regularly updated information please check our website at: [www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk](http://www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk) or like us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/newbattleabbey](https://www.facebook.com/newbattleabbey) or follow us on Twitter @LNewbattle.

Tickets are limited and must be booked in advance through Eventbrite.

# Welcome to Midlothian's first Festival of Words: **Literally@Newbattle**, taking place on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 April 2019, here at Newbattle Abbey College.



Literally@Newbattle is a collaborative venture involving a range of partners – Midlothian Council, Queen Margaret University, Scottish Mining Museum, Newbattle Abbey College and local

writers' groups. We will focus on engaging with children, young people and families in Midlothian through a diverse two-day programme.

**Friday 26 April** will be an event for primary schools, targeting specific schools in Midlothian. On Friday evening the college is delighted to host **Karine Polwart**, Pathhead-based songwriter, theatre maker, author and winner of the 2018 BBC Radio 2 Folk Singer of The Year award. Joining Karine will be Scots poet and novelist **Jackie Kay** MBE, FRSE. Jackie

is the third modern Makar; the Scottish poet laureate. The evening celebrates the importance of poetry, storytelling and song in Scotland.

**Saturday 27 April** will offer a diverse programme of events for all ages, including; Gaelic storytelling, poetry and writing showcases, script-writing, and rap hip-hop workshops, contemporary fiction and crime panels.

**Events for children are free.** Ticket costs for other events will be kept at a reasonable rate to encourage the local community to get involved. We look forward to welcoming you to Newbattle. We hope that this initiative will be the first of many and will extend cultural opportunities in Midlothian for people of all ages.

**Marian Docherty**  
Principal, Newbattle Abbey College

## Foreword



**Thomas & Adamson are delighted to sponsor the first ever Newbattle Literary Fayre.**

The festival features several events which reach beyond the 'typical' literary festival and directly engage with people who are underrepresented in the literature and literary art sector.

We hope our support will help raise awareness of just how important initiatives like this are in the

community, and help people discover a true passion for reading. It's the perfect escapism from the everyday grind.

**Literally@Newbattle** is both rewarding and important for our community outreach, a venture which we are sure the local community will embrace, and we are privileged to be part of the story.

**Brian Donaldson**  
Partner, Thomas & Adamson



FRIDAY 26 APRIL 2019

7.00 - 9.30PM

Venue: Drawing Room - £15

## A Celebration of Scotland in Words and Song

Karine Polwart and Jackie Kay



**Jackie Kay** was born and brought up in Scotland. *The Adoption Papers*

(Bloodaxe) won the Forward Prize, a Saltire prize and a Scottish Arts Council Prize. *Fiere* was shortlisted for the Costa award and her novel *Trumpet* won the Guardian Fiction Award and was shortlisted for the IMPAC award. *Red Dust Road* (Picador) won the Scottish Book of the Year Award, and the London Book Award, and was shortlisted for the JR Ackerley prize. Her third collection of short stories, *Reality, Reality*, was praised by The Guardian as 'ranking among the best of the genre'. She was awarded an MBE in 2006 and made a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2002. Her book of stories *Wish I Was Here* won the Decibel British Book Award.

Jackie Kay also writes for children and her book *Red Cherry Red* (Bloomsbury) won the Clype award. She has written extensively for stage and television. Her plays, *Manchester Lines* (produced by Manchester Library Theatre) and *The New Maw Broom Monologues* (produced by Glasgow), were a great success. Her most recent collection (*Bantam*) was published in 2017 to critical acclaim. She is Chancellor of the University of Salford and Professor of Creative Writing at Newcastle University.

Jackie Kay was named Scots Makar, the National Poet for Scotland, in March 2016.

**Karine Polwart** is a multi-award-winning songwriter and musician, a theatre maker, storyteller, essayist, and published writer. She also performs traditional songs and writes to commission for theatre, film, animation, and international thematic collaborative projects.

Karine has won the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards on six occasions, including twice for Best Original Song. Her fifth solo album *Traces* was shortlisted for both the Scottish Album of the Year (SAY) Award and BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards Album of the Year, and the Guardian chose it as best international folk-roots release of 2012. Her debut solo album *Faultlines* won Best Album at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards back in 2005, following her six year world tour as a traditional Scots singer with Malinky and The Battlefield Band.

2018 saw Karine named Folk Singer of The Year at the BBC Folk Awards; publish her first children's book *A Wee Bird Was Watching*; and release *Laws Of Motion*, which was selected as MOJO Magazine's Folk Album of the Year.

And 2019 began with the release of the first single from Karine Polwart's Scottish Songbook, a re-imagining of some of Karine's favourite classic Scottish pop songs. Each month will see a new single, culminating in a full album release in the summer and a tour of prestigious venues in the autumn, including Edinburgh's Usher Hall.



BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE: [newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk](http://newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk)



SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2019

10.00 - 11.15 AM

Venue: Crypt - Free Event

## Gaelic Storytelling

Martin McIntyre



**Martin MacIntyre** grew up in Lenzie, his father being from South Uist and his mother from Glasgow. He graduated in medicine from The University of Aberdeen in 1988 and between

1990 and 1992 gained qualifications in Gàidhealtachd and Media Studies at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Skye. Martin works as a doctor, writer and storyteller and has been a guest at Stanza, The Edinburgh International Book Festival, The Scottish International Storytelling Festivals, Toronto's IFOA and Scotland Week in New York.

In 2007 he was crowned 'Bàrd' by An Comunn Gàidhealach and since 2010 has been an Edinburgh Shore Poet. He has written six novels, two short-story collections and a volume of poems. Martin lives in Edinburgh with his wife and two children.

Venue: Edwin Muir Room - £2.50

## Gaelic Place Names

Neil McGregor



Born and brought up in Edinburgh with family connections to Strathspey. Neil started learning Gaelic at Edinburgh University and also studied at the School of Scottish

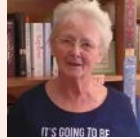
Studies. After graduating, he continued doing field recordings for the school, mostly along the last generation of Gaelic speakers in the east Highlands. He also spent a lot of time in Harris walking around the island and speaking to folk. Neil started teaching Gaelic in 1995 and now works at Edinburgh College and Newbattle Abbey College.

He has written three papers for the Gaelic Society of Inverness and has a continuing interest in place names and other things.

Venue: Drawing Room - £2.50

## Scotland in Verse

Mary Johnson and Hannah Lavery



Poets Mary Johnston and Hannah Lavery will explore aspects of Scottish

identity, history, belonging and language.

**Mary Johnston** has lived for more than fifty years in the Scottish Borders and now Midlothian, but her writing is inspired by the native language of her childhood: the Doric of Northeast Scotland. She took up writing after retiring from a career as a teacher and a relationship counsellor, and since then has published numerous poems, short stories, translations and pamphlets, including *Teuchat Storm* (2004), *Faa dis she think she is* (2009) and *Angel and the Aipple* (2013). She has won several awards, including The Callum MacDonald Memorial Award, for *Angel and the Aipple*, in 2014.

Mary will be sharing a selection of poetry in the Doric (and maybe some in English).

**Hannah Lavery** is a freelance writer and performer. Her most recent spoken word show, *The Drift* was part of the National Theatre of Scotland's Just Start Here festival in January 2018 and was previewed at the Tron Theatre with the National Theatre of Scotland as part of Black History Month in October 2018, and will go on a Scotland wide tour as part of the National Theatre of Scotland's Season 2019. She is also the director of CoastWord Festival and the Scottish Poetry Library's Learning and Engagement Coordinator.

Hannah will share *Finding Seaglass*, poems from her recent spoken word show *The Drift*. Her work journeys through history, belonging, love, loss, and a searingly honest portrayal of growing up mixed-race in Scotland.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE: [newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk](http://newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk)

SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2019

11.30 - 12.45 AM

Venue: Crypt - Free Event

## Playful Words

Moira Cormack



Unleash your inner child and enjoy this writing session designed to stir your creativity and get your words flowing. This workshop is suitable for writers of all levels, including those who have not yet dared to put pen to paper.

**Moira Cormack** writes novels for young people, fairytales and poetry. Her first novel, *The Witch of Land and Sea*, was published in 2016. She is also a relationship coach, has taught children in a myriad of contexts and is a mother of four. Moira has been described as the 'Mary Poppins of creative writing.'

Venue: Edwin Muir Room - £2.50

## Off the Wing

Martine Robertson, Enid Forsyth and Tom Kane



Off the Wing is a gloriously random collection of words and music about birds and bird lore of Scotland, as seen through the poetry, literature and traditional music of Scotland.

**Martine Robertson** – readings and songs

**Enid Forsyth** – readings, songs and harp instrumentals

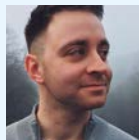
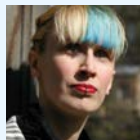
**Tom Kane** – readings, songs and guitar, mandolin instrumentals

Venue: Drawing Room - £2.50

## Coming of Age in

## Contemporary Scottish Fiction

Ever Dundas and Ross Sayers



Novelists Ever Dundas and Ross Sayers will explore themes of childhood,

imagination, friendship and loss.

**Ever Dundas** writes literary fiction, horror, fantasy and sci-fi. Her novel *Goblin* won the Saltire First Book of the Year Award 2017.

Growing up in WWII London, *Goblin* witnesses a shocking event and takes refuge in her imagination. In 2011, an unwanted phone call compels an elderly *Goblin* to return to London amidst the riots and face the ghosts of her past. Ever is currently working on her second novel, *HellSans*, a sci-fi thriller.

**Ross Sayers** is a writer of contemporary Scottish fiction for adults and teenagers.

His first book, *Mary's the Name*, revolves around a young girl and her granpa. Orphaned Mary lives with her granpa, but after he is mixed up in a robbery at the bookies where he works, they flee to the Isle of Skye. Gradually, Mary realises that her granpa is involved...

Ross is currently finishing his second novel, which is aimed at young adults and set in a Scottish high school, and he may share a sneak preview.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE: [newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk](http://newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk)

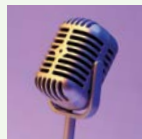
SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2019

1.15 - 3.00AM

Venue: Crypt - Free Event

## Poetry/Spoken Word Showcase

Various



An opportunity for local writers, poets and spoken word artists to showcase their work, in the atmospheric surroundings of Newbattle's Crypt. Slots will be awarded on the day, on a first

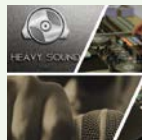
come, first serve basis. Please bring readings of no more than seven minutes.

This event is free, on a drop-in basis, so you may attend for all or part of the session.

Venue: Edwin Muir Room - £2.50

## Hip Hop Workshop with Heavy Sound

Jordon Butler



Explore the poetry, the power and the sounds of hip hop in this participative workshop.

Young people and those who are young in spirit are all welcome. No previous musical

expertise is necessary.

Heavy Sound is an award-winning social enterprise that runs alternative music programmes and projects for young people, including rapping, hip hop, DJ-ing, electronic music production, band/instrumental work, sound recording and music technology.

Venue: Drawing Room - £2.50

## Bloody Stories: Scottish Crime Fiction

Jackie McLean and Lesley Kelly



Two Scottish crime novelists will share readings from their most recent work

and discuss dark imagination, research, real life inspiration and the importance of keeping a sense of humour.

**Jackie McLean** has a varied background, including being a government economist, a political lobbyist, and running a pet shop. She started a mathematics PhD counting fish, and currently works with East Ayrshire Council, counting more things. She has appeared at numerous crime writing festivals and events in Scotland and beyond.

Jackie is the author of two crime novels, featuring DI Donna Davenport: *Toxic*, which was shortlisted for the Yeovil Literary Prize, and its sequel, *Shadows*. She is currently working on the third novel in the series.

**Lesley Kelly** has worked in the public and voluntary sectors for the past twenty years, dabbling in poetry and stand-up comedy along the way. She has won a number of writing competitions, including The Scotsman's Short Story award in 2008.

Her first novel, *A Fine House in Trinity*, was published by Sandstone Press in 2016, and was longlisted for the William McIlvanney Prize. Her second novel, *The Health of Strangers*, was published by Sandstone Press in 2017.

This event will be chaired by Jackie Gramosci Collins.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE: [newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk](http://newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk)

SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2019

3.15 - 4.30AM

Venue: Drawing Room - £2.50

## Trying New Hings: Poetry and Short Stories

Chris McQueer and Russell Jones



Two up and coming young Scottish authors will discuss the importance

of boundary-breaking and experimentation in writing.

**Chris McQueer** is a 27-year old writer from Glasgow. He has published two collections of short stories, *Hings* and *HWFG*, which have seen him compared to the likes of Limmy and Irvine Welsh.

Chris will be reading out a mix of old and new work as well as some 'B-Sides' which didn't quite make the final cut of his books.

**Russell Jones** is the UK pet poet laureate. He has published 5 collections of poetry and edited 3 anthologies. He is deputy editor of Scotland's only sci-fi magazine and has a PhD in Creative Writing. He is also currently the Creative Writing Fellow for Tyne and Esk Writers in Midlothian and East Lothian.

Russell will share a variety of poetry, including traditional forms (sonnet, haiku, villanelle) and modern approaches (concrete, comic, video games and film poems).

10.00 - 10.30AM

+ 11.00 - 11.30AM

Venue: Crypt - Free Event

## Bookbug



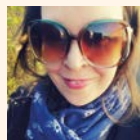
Free, friendly, fun sessions of songs, rhymes and stories for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their families and carers to enjoy together.

## Bookbug

Each session lasts around 30 minutes and has been designed to support children's development while having fun. They take place in a very relaxed environment and are a great opportunity to spend some quality time with your little one, and meet other families.

## Blogger in residence

Kelly Lacey



Award-winning book blogger **Kelly Lacey** will be our blogger in residence for the weekend.

For author features and reviews, follow Kelly's

Love Books Group on:

Facebook: @LoveBooksGrp

Twitter: @LoveBooksGroup

[www.lovebooksgroup.com](http://www.lovebooksgroup.com)

CAKE AND BAKES  
AVAILABLE TO  
PURCHASE IN DINING  
ROOM ALL DAY

BOOKS FROM  
CONTRIBUTORS  
AVAILABLE TO  
PURCHASE IN CRYPT

BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE: [newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk](http://newbattleabbeycollege.eventbrite.co.uk)





# Scotland's Adult Education College

Have you been out of education for a while?

Have you been working and want to get a qualification to help you move forward?

If so Newbattle Abbey College offers a unique experience to students:

We can offer residential accommodation and a life changing learning experience.

Our courses are tailored to adults with few or no qualifications.

We offer high quality support and extensive preparation for higher education.

We are now recruiting for the following Access to Higher Education (SWAP) courses (starting September 2019):

**Arts & Social Sciences | Primary Education | Celtic Studies**

To speak to someone directly, call us on: **0131 663 1921**

Email: **office@newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk**

**www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk**

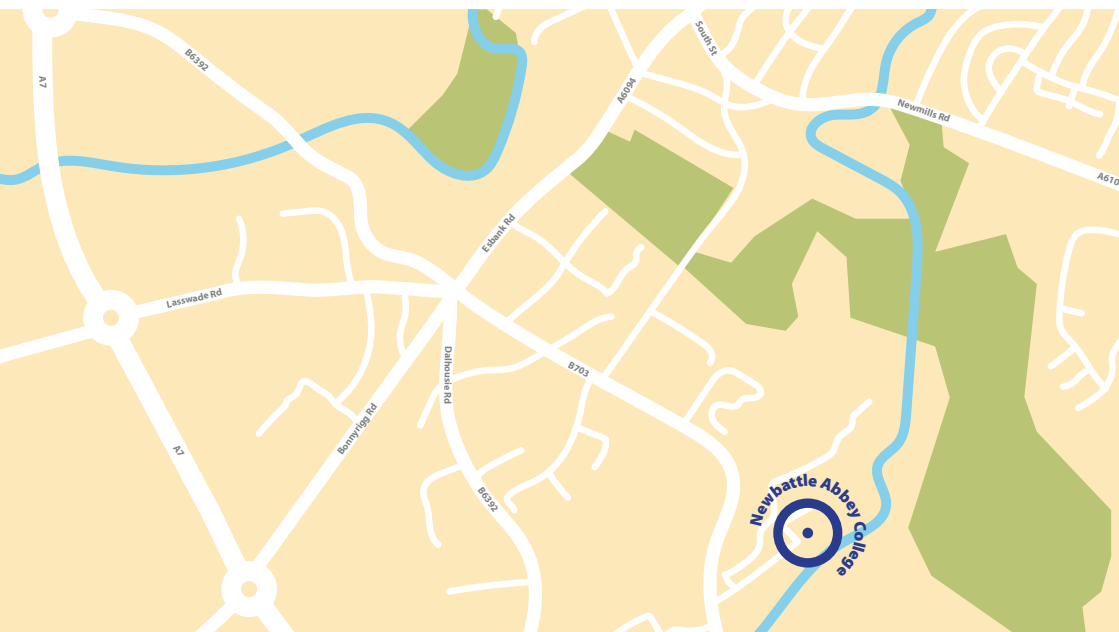
## Contact details

---

Newbattle Abbey College is located 7 miles south of Edinburgh and is served by a regular bus service.

**Newbattle Abbey College, Newbattle Road, Dalkeith, Midlothian, EH22 3LL**

E-mail: [office@newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk](mailto:office@newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk)



### By Bus

Take the *First X95* (Edinburgh – Hawick). Ask the driver to alert you at Newbattle Abbey College stop. Download *X95* timetable from our website.

[www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk/find-us](http://www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk/find-us)

### By Rail

The nearest railway station from Edinburgh Waverley is Eskbank. You can use the *National Rail Journey Planner* to find the most convenient route from your location.



## A r c h i t e c t s

AMP start each project with a blank sheet of paper. We look forward to you saying "hello", and filling it with your ideas.

hello @amparchitects.co.uk



Thomas  
& Adamson

International  
Construction  
& Property  
Consultancy

# Creating storeys to tell their own stories

Thomas & Adamson is proud to sponsor  
'Literally@Newbattle - Midlothian's Festival of Words'.



Established in 1935, Thomas & Adamson has been supporting the construction and commercial property sector for over 80 years through the challenges of procuring, delivering and operating built assets.

Connect with us at [thomasandadamson.com](https://www.thomasandadamson.com)

Edinburgh. Glasgow. London. Abu Dhabi. Dubai. Kiev. Portland.

